

REMARKS

This Submission is submitted together with a concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) to address the Examiner's comments in the continuation sheet attached to the Advisory Action dated March 31, 2009 and the final Office Action dated November 7, 2008.

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. Claim 5 has been previously cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to add the further new and unobvious feature of obtaining the sulfoxide compound of the general formula (II) from the sulfide compound.

No new matter has been added.

The applicants continue to respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 USC 103(a) over Kodama et al. (EP 1,277,726A1) in view of Harayama et al. (US 2004/0116299A1). These references do not make the presently claimed invention to be obvious.

Pursuant to the amendment of claim 1, as shown above, the presently claimed invention includes the feature of obtaining the sulfoxide compound of the general formula (II) from the sulfide compound.

The applicants assert that the present invention as recited in above amended claim 1 is nowhere disclosed, suggested or made obvious by the teachings of Kodama in combination with those of Harayama.

The presently claimed invention is fully allowable under Section 103(a) in view of the prior art.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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